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HEADQUARTERS, US NORTHERN COMMAND
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APPENDIX 21 TO ANNEX C TO USNORTHCOM CONPLAN 3501
NATIONAL SPECIAL SECURITY EVENTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- References:
- a. Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, Implementation Guidance Regarding the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense, 25 March 2003
 - b. Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-7, Critical Infrastructure Identification, Prioritization, and Protection, 17 December 2003
 - c. DOD Directive 3025.13, Employment of Department of Defense Resources in Support of the United States Secret Service, 13 Sep 1985
 - d. CJCSI 3121.01B, 13 Jun 05.
 - e. Posse Comitatus Act, 18USC1385.
 - f. Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976, 17 Jan 1976.
 - g. MOA Between DOD and Treasury Department, 27 Jun 1968
 - h. USNORTHCOM 251530Z May 04, Public Affairs Guidance, Military Support to National Special Security Events (NSSE)
 - i. See Base plan for additional references

1. General. This appendix addresses the DSCA operations planning and execution for National Special Security Events (NSSE) and Special Events (SE). The Secretary of Homeland Security (SecDHS) designates NSSEs. The Special Events Working Group (SEWG) assigns the Special Event Assessment Report (SEAR) Levels 1-5 for other events. Commander United States Northern Command (CDRUSNORTHCOM) will be designated the supported combatant commander for all NSSEs and some of the SEs in the USNORTHCOM AO to provide command and control (C2) of Department of Defense (DOD) forces approved by the Secretary of Defense (SecDef). DOD and USNORTHCOM involvement in an SE depends upon the level of DOD support requested by the Primary Agency.

- a. National Special Security Events (NSSE). NSSEs are events of national significance, by virtue of their profile or status, that represent a significant target and, therefore, warrant additional

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preparation, planning, and mitigation efforts. Presidential Decision Directive (PDD-62) formalized and delineated the roles and responsibilities of federal agencies in the development of security plans for NSSEs. Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-7 established the new process for designating events of national and international significance as NSSEs. NSSEs receive greater federal planning and protection than other special events. The process begins with a request for NSSE designation, usually by the Governor of the State where the event will be held, to the SecDHS. The NSSE Working Group (WG) evaluates the request using such factors as anticipated attendance by dignitaries, size of the event, significance of the event, a questionnaire, and conducts a site survey. The SecDHS, in consultation with the Attorney General (AG), and based upon the recommendation of the NSSE WG, designates events as NSSEs. For NSSEs, DHS/United States Secret Service (USSS) has primary responsibility for security design, planning, and implementation; the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has primary responsibility for law enforcement, intelligence, hostage rescue, counterterrorism, and criminal investigation; and DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has primary responsibility for emergency response and recovery planning and coordination. These agencies work together using the principles of Unified Command with a pre-designated Principal Federal Official (PFO) facilitating interagency (IA) incident management coordination during NSSE planning and execution. To thoroughly plan for a NSSE, the Primary Agency/Agencies would establish a number of Law Enforcement and Public Safety Subcommittees with representation from all the IA organizations involved, including DOD, accreditation, air space security, civil disturbance, consequence management, crisis management, critical systems protection, dignitary protection, explosive ordnance disposal (EOD)/hazardous materials (HAZMAT), fire/life safety/contingency plan, IA communications, intelligence/counter terrorism, legal, logistics, public affairs (PA), training, transportation, tactical/counter surveillance, venue security, and water and food safety. Some of the titles may change, but these are representative subcommittees. The Primary Agency/Agencies submit a Request for Assistance (RFA) to the OSD Executive Secretary for DOD support. The request is staffed by the Joint Director of Military Support (JDOMS) and is approved by the SecDef. Once approved, the JDOMS issues an Execute Order (EXORD) to USNORTHCOM to accept forces operational or tactical control (OPCON/TACON), provide C2 of approved forces, and provide DSCA for the event. A list of NSSEs is provided at Tab 1.